Assessment of ARWSP

1598. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the impact assessment of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme by independent sources has revealed the reemergence of problem villages and shortcomings in critical parameters of adequacy, regularity, quality, distance of source of water, etc.in many States;

(b) if so,whether it is also a fact that CAG has adversely commented in their brochure on Audit Reports; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) to (c) Report of the CAG (Report No. 3) for the year 2002 (for the year ended March, 2001) has recently been received. Chapter III of the Report reviews the implementation of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme in 25 States during 1997-98 to 2000-2001. This Report was presented in Parliament on 19.3.2002.

In para 20 of Chapter III of the report *inter alia* observerd that impact assessment of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme has revealed inadequacy of water supply, irregularity of water supply, inconvenient location of water source, poor quality of water, irregularity in frequency of testing of water, etc. in some blocks of some of the States.

Drinking water supply being a State subject, schemes for providing drinking water facilities are implemented by the States from their own resources.The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARSWP). The powers to plan, sanction and implement Rural Water Supply schemes under the above programmes rests with the State Governments.

Most of the observations contained in the CAG Report are state specific and therefore, action thereon is to be taken by the respective State Governments. State Governments have been requested to furnish their

comments on the observation pertaining to them which include re-emergence of problem villages and short comings in critical parameters of adequacy, regularity, quality, distance of source of water, etc.

Rural Development Technologies

1599. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an eminent nuclear scientist has called for "technology foresight" for selecting the critical technologies for development with a national perspective giving the first place for rural development related technologies a high priority;

(b) if so, the steps that are being considered for rural development technologies;

(c) whether any measures in this regard have been worked out; and

(d) if so, to what extent this technology is likely to help develop rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Utilisation of PMGSY funds by States

1600. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount utilised by each State for the last three years under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) what is the mechanism to monitor the operation of the programme;

(c) the details of the instructions given to the implementing authority with regard to tendering and monitoring mechanism to carry out the mechanism in time;

(d) whether Government have received complaints from the States regarding this scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?